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|---|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) |   | Application Number     | 10/765,180        |
|   |   | Filing Date            | January 28, 2004  |
|   |   | First Named Inventor   | Satoshi NISHIKAJI |
|   |   | Group Art Unit         | 3618              |
|   |   | Examiner Name          | To Be Assigned    |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 3 | Attorney Docket Number | 742425-23         |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Corrected Filing Receipt with Enclosures<br><input type="checkbox"/> A self-addressed prepaid postcard for acknowledging receipt<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>PTO Form-1449 with seven (7) references<br>European Search Report |
| Remarks  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 for the above identified docket number.  |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |  |
|--|--|
| Firm or Individual name                    | Donald R. Studebaker, Registration No. 32,815<br>Nixon Peabody LLP<br>401 9 <sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.<br>Suite 900<br>Washington, D.C. 20004-2128 |
| Signature                                  |  |
| Date                                       | October 1, 2004  |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]   |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:  |                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop _____, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) _____.   |                       |
| Date   | Signature             |
|  | Typed or printed name |

Application No. 10/765,180  
Docket No. 742425-23



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                |   |                          |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of:   | ) |                          |
| Satoshi NISHIKAJI et al.       | ) | Examiner: To Be Assigned |
| Serial No. 10/765,180          | ) | Group Art Unit: 3618     |
| Filed: January 28, 2004        | ) | Confirmation No. 9852    |
| For: AIRBAG DEVICE FOR VEHICLE | ) | Date: October 1, 2004    |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20<sup>th</sup> Street, South  
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Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. In accordance with the PTO notice dated July 11, 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent, for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents are enclosed. However, copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature are submitted under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

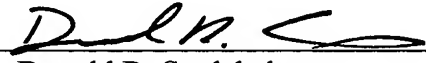
The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing of this application or entry into the national stage of this application, or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Applicants cite: EP-0-000-101-B1; WO-02/100690-A1; DE-196-46-698-A1; US-2004/0021304; US-6,065,772; US-5,913,536; and US-5,556,128. Applicants also note that WO-02/100690-A1 is in the same family as US-2004/0021304.

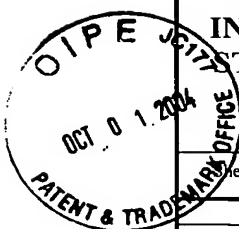
It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 (742425-23).

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Donald R. Studebaker  
Registration No. 32,815

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
Suite 900  
401 9<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004-2128  
Telephone: (202) 585-8000



| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  |                       |   |                                      | Complete if Known              |  |  |                |
|--|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|----------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT<br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |                       |   |                                      | Application Number             | 10/765,180   |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      | Filing Date                    | January 28, 2004                                   |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      | First Named Inventor           | Satoshi NISHIKAJI                                  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      | Art Unit                       | 3618   |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      | Examiner Name                  | To Be Assigned                                     |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      | Attorney Docket Number         | 742425-23  |  |                |
| Sheet  | 1                     | of  | 1                                    |                                |  |  |                |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
| Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>   | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document  |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear    |                |
|  |                       | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)  |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       | US-5,556,128  |                                      | September 17, 1996             | SINNHUBER et al.                                   |  |                |
|  |                       | US-5,913,536  |                                      | June 22, 1999                  | BROWN  |  |                |
|  |                       | US-6,065,772  |                                      | May 23, 2000                   | YAMAMOTO et al.                                    |  |                |
|  |                       | US-2004/0021304   |                                      | February 5, 2004               | TANASE et al.                                      |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
| Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>   | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|  |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>   | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       | DE-196-46-698-A1  |                                      | May 22, 1997                   | KOIDE  |  |                |
|  |                       | WO-02/100690-A1   |                                      | December 19, 2002              | TANASE et al.                                      |  |                |
|  |                       | EP-0-000-101-B1   |                                      | December 3, 2003               | ACKER et al.                                       |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
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|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS                                  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
| Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>   | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |                                      |                                |  |  | T <sup>2</sup> |
|  |                       | European Search Report for Application No. EP-04-00-1968, dated May 5, 2004   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
|  |                       |   |                                      |                                |  |  |                |
| Examiner Signature   |                       |   |                                      | Date Considered                |  |  |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.